

Couple arrested for multi-town break-ins

Duxbury police part of task force

Gatehouse News Service

A Brockton couple arrested Monday after a task force of officers from Duxbury, Middleborough and Plympton watched them break into a Sherborn home may be responsible for up to 50 house breaks throughout the state, authorities said.

Francis C. Paiva, 28, and his wife, Sandra Homan, 31, were arrested after breaking into a Washington Street home around 2 p.m. after the task force followed them to Sherborn, Duxbury Police Chief Matthew M. Clancy said.

Clancy said the task force was set up three months ago and identified the pair as sus-



Francis C. Paiva



Sandra Homan

pects in break-ins in Duxbury, Middleborough, Plympton, Medway, Bellingham, Brockton and possibly several other communities.

"We got a sense this had potential to be significant," Clancy said. "We still do not know how significant, because they

(detectives) are still doing inventory. We still do not know exactly how many break-ins they are responsible for. It is not out of the realm of possibility that it will be between 30 and 50."

Using a GPS device that

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the task force attached to the underside of the couple's white Cadillac, police tracked the pair to the Washington Street home Monday. Police watched them break into the home, prosecutor Warren Lee said during the couple's arraignment Tuesday at Framingham District Court.

The pair stole jewelry and an expensive purse from the home before they were arrested, Lee said.

Both Paiva and Homan, who told police they live in Milton, but who police said actually lived in either Brockton or Quincy, are charged with breaking and entering, larceny from a building and conspiracy to commit a crime.

Lee asked Judge Robert Greco to hold Paiva on \$5,000 bail. He did not request bail for Homan.

Lee said Paiva has a long criminal record as well as an open assault and battery case in Brockton District Court and an open armed home invasion case in Plymouth Su-

perior Court.

Instead, Greco released Paiva on \$1,000 bail and did not set bail for Homan. Both are due back in court Jan. 24 for a pretrial conference.

Sherborn Police Chief Richard Thompson said it does not appear the couple are suspects in any other Sherborn burglaries, but "it's still a continuing investigation."

Natick Police spokesman Lt. Brian Grassey said detectives are in contact with the other communities to see if there is any connection to the number of recent break-ins in

Natick to Paiva and Homan.

Bellingham Police Chief Gerald Daigle Jr. said he could not comment if the couple are tied to any break-ins, but said officers from his department would be calling the task force.

Medway Police Chief Allen Tingley said there have been burglaries in the Fisher Street area in the past few weeks and Medway detectives would be contacting the task force to get information about Paiva and Homan.